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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1523)

Name of Candidate	Kush		
Medium Eng./Hindi		Registration Number	916052
Center		Date	31/12/2020

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi- 110009

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1. Enumerate the issues associated with functioning of the Central Information Commission. How can these issues be addressed? **(150 words) 10**

केंद्रीय सूचना आयोग की कार्य प्रणाली से संबद्ध मुद्दों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। इन मुद्दों का कैसे समाधान किया जा सकता है?

Chief Information Commission is statutory body created by RTI 2005, with jurisdiction over ALL central public authorities.

it is empowered to provide almost all information, yet, there are several functioning issues:

1. Pending cases → have increased to 2 lakh +
2. Appeals rejected → appeals from FAA (appelate authority) to CIC are often rejected
3. Blanket use of official secrets Act 1923 – colonial culture of secrecy continues.
4. No comprehensive protection to RTI activists via RTI Act 2005 / whistle-blowers Act → Thus RTI activists are still attached / often die.
5. Blanket bar on 3rd party information and

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clauses of WCS (Handi - for privacy — but not relaxed even in public interest.

How to address:

1. Repeal of official secrets Act - and transfer of its necessary provisions to National Security Act, etc.
   ↓
   This has also been recommended by ARC 2nd Administrative Reforms Committee
   ↓
   Necessary to change culture of secrecy
2. Need to make secrecy the exception, not the norm. → less appeals will be rejected.
3. Recent amendments → CIC members now to get salary + previous pension they were receiving if any → now CIC has become very attractive for ex-bureaucrats. → need to pay only "salary - pension" - so that pay is rational.
4. Fast resolution of pending cases.

Transparency and Accountability will help nation grow faster, not slower. However guidelines for use should also be there, so that citizens dont misuse //

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2. In India, Governor's discretionary powers are wider than those of the President. Elaborate. (150 words) 10

भारत में, राज्यपाल की विवेकाधीन शक्तियाँ राष्ट्रपति की तुलना में अधिक व्यापक हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Indian system of parliamentary democracy, and ~~also~~ a "federal" constitution provide for President as head of State (formal) at the Union level (Article 53), and somewhat equivalently, Governor as head of State (formal) at State level (Article 154).

Similar / equivalent discretionary powers:

1. Selection of who would form the government in case of a "hung house"
2. Discretion of when to dissolve the house - after government has lost majority.
3. Ask PM / CM for information regarding any administrative matter

Yet, constitution also provides for certain explicitly discretionary powers to President (Article 163). Going beyond that, constitution

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also explicitly says, if there is doubt about whether power is discretionary or not - Governor's ~~Role~~ stand shall be final.

Certain discretionary powers are:

1. ~~Resolving~~ Reserving a state legislation for consideration of president (Article 201)
2. Article 356: Producing a report that governence of state can't be run in accordance with constitution, hence calling President rule.
3. Special responsibility with respect to Article 371 and 6th schedule areas.
4. Appointment of university chancellors.

Thus it might seem that Governor has very wide discretion. Yet in Shamsher Singh v/s State of Punjab case, SC ruled that discretion is only when constitution explicitly says so. ~~Hence~~ And this is necessary for unity and integrity of the nation.

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3. Highlight the objectives that were sought to be achieved through tribunals. How successful have they been in meeting them? (150 words) 10
उन उद्देश्यों को रेखांकित कीजिए जिन्हें अधिकरणों के माध्यम से प्राप्त करने का प्रयास किया गया था। वे उन्हें पूर्ण करने में कितने सफल रहे हैं?

Tribunals were introduced by addition of Articles 323 A and 323 B, by 42nd Const. Amendment.

323 A is for administrative tribunals, and 323 B is for other tribunals.

The objectives sought were:

1. A mechanism not as formal as courts, but not as informal as Quasi-Judicial bodies - to resolve legal issues.
2. Massive burden of judiciary - currently ~4 cr pending cases - to ease this burden.
3. Possibility to involve experts - Eg: NGT - equal number of judicial and non judicial members.
4. In a normal court proceeding, a non-legal expert can't be part of a bench. Yet as economic structure, development changes, there is a need for experts.
(Eg: experts in corporate law and functioning to resolve insolvency)

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5. Simpler procedures - bound by principles of natural justice - not IPC/CrPC/ Evidence Act etc
↓
so that they are more efficient

6. Simpler procedures also so that they are more approachable - Cost of Justice reduces.

Achievements:

1. NGT - highlighted several weaknesses in environmental governance - speedy redressal in some cases.
2. Tax tribunals - resolve 1000s of cases efficiently every year which would otherwise drag on in judiciary.
3. Administrative tribunals - ensure proceedings stay within department and are resolved quickly.

Failures:

1. often, such as in case of insolvency, lawyers are needed - so it has not become any cheaper, especially for small businesses, MSMEs.
2. Judgement can be appealed to HC/SC ⇒ judiciary burden does not decrease.
3. Vacancy: many vacant positions

Thus, if we resolve these weaknesses, we will be on path to achieve justice as envisioned in preamble //

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4. Instead of the government regulating Over-the-top (OTT) platforms, there have been calls for a self-regulating mechanism for such platforms, as in the case of print media. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

सरकार द्वारा ओवर-द-टॉप (ओ.टी.टी.) प्लेटफॉर्म्स को विनियमित करने के स्थान पर, ऐसे प्लेटफॉर्म्स के लिए एक स्व-विनियमन तंत्र हेतु आह्वान किया गया है, जैसे कि प्रिंट मीडिया के मामले में किया गया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Government recently announced (via Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) that it would regulate OTT platforms.

Need:

1. Currently no restriction on any content
2. Wide reach via internet - and increasing
3. Article 19(1)(a): freedom of speech and expression, with reasonable grounds of restrictions as according to Article 19(2)
4. Many times - it is seen that these reasonable grounds are violated.
5. Possibility of content sponsored by non-state actors with perverse incentives - such as ISI - Pakistan.

Hence there is growing need for regulation.

WT:

Comparative analysis of how other media is regulated.

1. Print media - Statutory Press Council of India

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2. NEWS MEDIA :
SELF REGULATORY. News broadcasters Association

3. Other TV Channels :
SELF REGULATORY : Broadcasting Content Complaints Council

4. Thus from above examples, seen that News media and TV channels, which are closest to OTT content are regulated not by government / statutory body - but by self-regulation.

5. Hence need to follow consistency in establishing a self-regulation organisation / platform for OTT also.

6. They must be incentivised via self-regulation -

7. There is too much content for government to regulate individually

Hence, self-regulation as alternative must also be analyzed and detailed cost-benefit analysis should be done

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5. Bring out the arguments surrounding the issue of some states reserving jobs for locals in the private sector. (150 words) 10

कुछ राज्यों द्वारा निजी क्षेत्रक में नौकरियों को स्थानीय लोगों के लिए आरक्षित किए जाने से संबंधित मुद्दे के चतुर्दिक तर्कों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Recently, there has been a flurry of announcements of reservation of jobs for locals.

While Andhra Pradesh has ~~stated~~ constitutional protection for local employees, that is also only via the President. ~~Yet, Andh~~ (Article 371)

Yet many states - including Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, etc, have started reserving jobs for locals.

Reasons for this:

1. Unemployment rising - 6.1% (PLFS) (2017-18)
2. Pandemic has exacerbated albeit number massively - to 23% (OECD report).
3. Hence, to prevent unrest among local population - lot of states have done such reservation.
4. Migrant crisis - locals will migrate out and possibly work under poorer conditions if this is not done.

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Arguments in favour:

1. Migrant crisis scale prevented - less distress migrations (push factors reduce)
2. Labour shortage in coastal areas companies forced to set-up new businesses in states like Madhya Pradesh
   → balanced growth and development
3. Social security net becomes more comprehensive - (as migrants in urban areas typically have no social security)

Arguments against:

1. Labour availability - required skilled labour might not be available everywhere
2. One Nation one market principle challenged
3. Ease of doing business reduces (as cost to company rises).

Way forward:

1. Coordination between states - no unilateral action.
2. Competitive and cooperative federalism together.
3. Inter-state contracts / legislation to provide social security.

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6. Identifying the key elements of Mission Karmayogi, briefly explain how it can lead to holistic development of the human resources and state's capacity. **(150 words) 10**

मिशन कर्मयोगी के प्रमुख तत्वों की पहचान करते हुए, संक्षेप में स्पष्ट कीजिए कि इससे मानव संसाधन और राज्य की क्षमता का समग्र विकास कैसे हो सकता है।

Civil servants who are at the core of governance implementation often become complacent after joining services, and don't keep up with rapidly changing world. It is in this light that "Mission karmayogi" - National Program for Civil servants capacity building has been introduced.

	Component/key element of Mission	How it will lead to holistic development of HR and state capacity
1.	Transition from "Rules based" to "Roles based".	→ Civil servant can play variety of roles → This would hence train them for role and develop HR (human resources). → Role done well → state capacity will increase
2.	"On-site Learning"	→ "in theory - no difference between theory and practice, in practice there is". Learning practically ↓ HR develops

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3.	Shared infrastructure including Learning and training Resource	→ This is in line with BEST practices of international MNCs → state resources saved by convergence → capacity building, as well as better understanding
4.	FRAC (Framework, Roles, Activities, Competencies) approach	→ trained resources created for different government department ↓ faster take-off on jobs ↓ state capacity increases
5.	Build behavioural and Domain competency	→ become expert, not just a bureaucrat ↓ HR develops
6.	Partnerships with external institutes	→ best practices adopted ↓ state capacity constantly augmented, not in bits and pieces or in a reactionary way
7.	Data analytics	→ new age governance → State capacity needs data, and intelligent insights to grow in this age

Hence seen how Mission Karmayogi will help//

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7. Highlighting the role played by ASHA workers in public health system of India, discuss the challenges faced by them. (150 words) 10
भारत की सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली में आशा कार्यकर्ताओं द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका को रेखांकित करते हुए, उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

ASHA workers are Accredited Social Health Activist workers - a system of healthcare providers institutionalized by Ministry of Health and Family welfare for COMMUNITY HEALTH.

Role played by them:

1. First line / front line health workers, providers
2. Coordinate on ground Angan wadi program, and thus all government nutrition initiatives (post natal)
3. Responsible for institutional delivery - via PM Matru Vandana Yojana, etc.
4. Responsible for coordination and outreach for immunization programs. (Indradhanush)
5. Responsible for growth initiatives such as weekly iron and folic Acid.
6. In total, they coordinate and implement on ground over 50 programs.

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Challenges:

1. Extremely less pay.
2. Fixed component of salary is lower than Rs 2000/- per month in some states.
3. Over this their pay is incentive based, such as Rs 100/- for each institutional delivery, and so on.
4. Even these low wages are paid in a delayed manner by government.
5. Not utilized to potential - more investment in ASHA workers will lead to better on ground delivery.

Way forward:

1. Training and capacity building.
2. Higher, at least on time payments.
3. Integrate with new programs such as Ayushmann Bharat, National Digital Health Mission, etc for better outcomes.

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8. While internationalisation of higher education has many potential benefits for India, certain challenges will need to be addressed in this regard. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

यद्यपि उच्चतर शिक्षा के अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण के भारत के लिए कई संभावित लाभ हैं, तथापि इस संबंध में कुछ चुनौतियों का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता होगी। चर्चा कीजिए।

New Education Policy based on Kasturirangan panel was approved in 2020. It is welcome policy to deal with challenges of 21st century.

Among other initiatives, it deals with:

1. Attracting foreign universities to India
2. Attracting foreign students in India
3. Raising Indian universities to global best standards.
4. Encouraging possibly Indian universities to have foreign campuses

These are 4 dimensions of internationalisation of education.

Many benefits:

1. If foreign universities set campus in India → less Indians will go abroad to study → forex saved → current account deficit decreases

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2. foreign students come to India → rankings of top Indian university will improve in QS ranking (as they have parameter for global students) → more investment
↓
more research
↓
national growth

3. Indian universities rise in global standards -
↓
soft power + national growth

4. Indian university campuses abroad
↙ income (forex) earned
↘ soft power
↘ sustainable development

Challenges:

1. foreign universities come to India
↓
cost of education increases
↙ less access
↘ more inequality in higher education

2. foreign students come to India → syllabus design has to be internationalized too.

3. Indian universities go abroad
↓
possible resources that can be invested in India reduce

Hence, these challenges, especially of higher education access for Indian students must be improved, to improve GER from 26 to 50, as a target of NEP.

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9. India needs to adopt a more pragmatic stance in the context of the ongoing intra-Afghan talks. Discuss, in the light of India's engagement with Afghanistan. **(150 words) 10**

भारत को वर्तमान में जारी अंतरा-अफगान वार्ताओं के संदर्भ में अधिक व्यावहारिक रुख अपनाने की आवश्यकता है। अफगानिस्तान के साथ भारत के जुड़ाव के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Context: 2001 USA terrorist attacks → USA + NATO troops in Afghanistan → to curb Taliban → lengthy conflict

→ USA - Taliban deal 2020 → to withdraw USA troops, and to give recognition to Afg. Taliban → (Afghan government + Taliban) intra - Afghan talks

India's current stance/policy:

1. Most consistent stand globally - support for "Afghan - led, Afghan - owned and Afghan-controlled" peace process.
2. No engagement with Taliban (past terrorist attacks such as flight hijacking)
3. Support to Afghanistan government via soft loans, medical and election assistance, etc.

Analysis:

1. "Afghan-led, afghan-owned, afghan-controlled".
   → No change in policy needed.
   → Now, Taliban has also become part of talks.

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→ should only seek to ensure that Taliban does not hijack these talks, and all sections of society are represented.

2. No engagement with Pakistan:

→ Policy change needed.

→ As Taliban gets recognition - India should also engage - after guarantee of commitment to peace.

→ In fact, INDIA SHOULD USE THIS AS OPPORTUNITY, to dehyphenate Taliban from ISI, Pakistan

→ As it gets recognition, it ~~would~~ would also want to present more responsible image to world, and India can use this quest for responsibility to isolate ISI.

3. Soft assistance
↳ no change needed, must continue.

Hence, only magnanimic change needed is engagement with Taliban, and need to de-hyphenate it from Pakistani ISI.

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10. In the geo-strategic context of West Asia, the recent efforts to normalise relations between Israel and UAE may open new possibilities for India. Analyse. **(150 words) 10**

पश्चिम एशिया के भू-रणनीतिक संदर्भ में, इजरायल और यू.ए.ई. के मध्य संबंधों को सामान्य बनाने के लिए हाल ही में किए गए प्रयासों से भारत हेतु नई संभावनाएं उत्पन्न हो सकती हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

After decades, not only ~~Rest~~ are relations between Israel and UAE on way to normalisation, but between Israel and other Arab countries too - such as Morocco, and Saudi, etc.

Geo strategic concept making change possible	Possibility for India
1. decline of non-islamism.	Build better relations with both Arab countries, ↓ more isolation of Pakistan terrorist activities.
2. Normalisation of relations	Set up platform for further normalisation via cooperation on issues such as → Solar power → I.T. → India is in unique position to do this as it is only country enjoying good relations with both and investing in these domains

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2	New project: Israel - Arab transport (rail) corridor for more trade (through Saudi Arabia)	→ It is expected to increase trade exponentially → Opportunity for India: Strengthen trade with Saudi Arabia / UAE / Israel, and utilize opportunity of this corridor too. → Should consider limited trade agreements with UAE / Israel.
3		
4	New project: Neom city, Saudi Arabia	→ UAE, Israel will potentially invest in it → Smart, new age city. → Indian companies can use expertise
5	Sovereign wealth funds (Gulf) + Israel technology	→ UAE, Saudi Arabia have huge wealth funds → Israel has innovative start-up culture → Eg: water management in desert. → India can invite joint technology + finance investment

Hence, changes open up multiple possibilities, India should act fast//.

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11. It is not only the content of election manifestos but also the past performance with respect to promises made in election manifestos that need to be regulated. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

केवल चुनावी घोषणा-पत्रों की विषयवस्तु को ही नहीं, बल्कि चुनावी घोषणा-पत्रों में किए गए वादों से संबंधित विगत निष्पादन को भी विनियमित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Election manifestos are 'promise documents' which describe policies government will adopt if it comes to power, or schemes it will implement

Current scenario :

1. Not regulated by law, post or present.
2. For present manifesto content, ie, for upcoming elections, only content is mildly regulated via Model Code of Conduct. (MCC)
3. This clause was introduced to Model code of conduct in 2013.
4. It calls upon parties not to make any false promises which might mislead voters.
5. Yet MCC is only moral, ie, it is

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not implementable.

6. This clause of MCC is also not represented in any enforcable law.

7. Hence it can be said that it is basically unregulated, as there are still instances of making false promises, without details of implementation.

eg: recent Bihar elections.

<u>need for regulation of content</u>:

1. Elections (free and fair) depend on information.

2. If voter doesn't have correct info, he can't choose who to vote for in an unbiased ways

↓

ie, vote is compromised

↓

election is compromised

↓

Democracy threatened

3. Democracy is part of Basic Structure Doctrine

4. Information is part of right to free speech

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and expression under Article 19(1)(a)

5. Hence necessary to regulate content, as ~~action~~ to ensure voters get correct information in promises ~~is~~ from manifesto

Need to regulate past content:

1. Past record is necessary, to get good indication of future practices
2. Just as ~~ch~~ when purchasing any product/ choosing any other decision, we look at past performance - necessary here too.
3. Hence past performance tracker can be prepared and provided to voters.
4. This will ensure parties don't take momentary fake promises for short term returns and stay honest

Way forward:

1. MCC can require all companies to make a ~~p~~planner of how they will implement their promises.
2. ~~Post~~ promise tracking can be initiated on immediate basis, so that no one makes false promises in future.

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12. In order to achieve a reduction in the pendency of cases and a return to the Supreme Court's original role as a final appellate court, setting up of a National Court of Appeal is the need of the hour. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**
लंबित वादों की संख्या में कमी लाने और उच्चतम न्यायालय को अंतिम अपीलीय न्यायालय के रूप में उसकी मूल भूमिका में पुन: स्थापित करने के लिए, एक राष्ट्रीय अपील न्यायालय स्थापित करना समय की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

~~When the~~

In the early years of Indian Independence, the Supreme Court used to take 50+ cases of constitution benches, and has done lot of landmark jurisprudence. Yet, gradually, number of ~~pendency~~ pending cases has increased, and supreme court has been reduced to appelate court.

Currently: ~4 cr cases pending in judicial system overall

~65000+ pending in supreme court.

(Most pendency is in lower courts).

The idea:

1. National Court of Appeal: ~~[illegible]~~

4 regional benches (geographical)

↓

All appeals to go there, they will be highest courts of appeal.

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2. SC at New Delhi will be constitutional court, court for center-state disputes, writs, and election dispute, any other constitutional cases only.

3. That is, the 4 National courts of Appeals (NCAs) will act as final appeal benches of SC.

4. How this will help?

1. faster resolution of appeals.
2. Reduction in pendency.
3. SC can focus on pending constitutional cases.
4. Currently, 60-70% cases from HC to SC are from North India. This will thus also make appellate jurisdiction and justice more ACCESSIBLE.

5. Faster resolution ⇒ ease of doing business ↑↑ (there is a separate parameter)

Legally can it be done?

1. Article 130: seat of SC shall be in New Delhi, unless Chief Justice of India (CJI) decides with President (Pres), another seat can't be created.

2. Hence easy to implement: only consensus between CJI and Pres needed, and amendment to Article 130.

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3. Hence recently Vice President discussed the need for implementation of this idea.

Challenges:

1. Spirit of federalism.
2. As the question of location of these 4 benches arises.
3. Thus if not implemented well, it might become challenge to idea of independent integrated judiciary.

Other methods to resolve pendency:
(By Economic Survey 2018-19).

1. Indian Judicial Service - for administrative assistance to judiciary
2. More working days
3. fulfill vacancy in judges.
4. e-governance and ICT - eCourts Mission Mode Project - National Judicial Data Grid

Considering number of pending cases, all steps need to be taken on war footing to realize Preamble ideal of justice, social, economic and political.

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13. The Constitution of India reflects an amalgamation of spirit of Indian freedom struggle and various administrative provisions of different acts of British rule in India. Explain. (250 words) 15

भारत का संविधान भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संघर्ष की भावना और भारत में ब्रिटिश शासन के विभिन्न अधिनियमों के अनेक प्रशासनिक प्रावधानों के मिश्रण को दर्शाता है। व्याख्या कीजिए।

The British rule lasted over 200 years, and Indian struggle too, and hence all of this was reflected in Constitution.

Different provisions of acts ~~keeps~~ amalgamated as:

Act / name / theme	Amalgamation
1. Regulating Act of 1773: concept of checks and balances	lots of checks and balances such as - President appoints CJI, SC judges, yet SC judges are independent in judicial functioning ~~and~~ yet they can be impeached by legislature
2. Regulating Act of 1833: 1 law member introduced; Beginning of 'Legislature'.	Constitution ~~India today~~ gives major importance to legislature.
3. Council Act of 1853, 1861: formalised system	India today is parliamentary

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of 'executive' being part of 'Legislature'	democracy → same principle followed
4. Use of Chief Commissioners to control directly administered territories	Use of LG to control UT without legislature
5. ~~Constitution~~ GoI Act of 1935 : LAG	→ Almost as is reproduced in constitution
6. Government of India Act 1935 : emergency provisions	→ reproduced as if
7. Government of India (GoI) Act 1935 : Federal, Provincial and concurrent lists	→ retained.
8. ~~Constitution~~ GoI Act 1909 : Bicameral Legislature	→ retained
9. And so on.	

Thus, lot of provisions were amalgamated, other examples include 6th schedule concept, depressed classes → scheduled castes, etc.

Similarly, spirit of freedom struggle was also amalgamated as :

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Spirit of freedom struggle	Amalgamation
1. British gave: NO → NO CIVIL RIGHTS → NO FREEDOM of SPEECH, etc. Spirit: fundamental rights, as discussed in Nehru committee, and in 1931 session led by Patel	Part 3 of constitution. Fundamental rights
2. British introduced inhuman policy of separate electorates to divide and rule. Indian spirit: unity, universal adult franchise	Article 326: UAF ↓ spirit amalgamated, British inhuman policy rejected.
3. Spirit of democracy	Democratic traditions at all levels.
4. Spirit of village empowerment and rejuvenation - gram swaraj	Art. Article 40, 73rd, 74th amendments
5. Spirit of opposition to economic drain and exploitation	Just taxation policies, etc

Hence both spirit of movement, and provisions of Acts were beautifully amalgamated by Constituent Assembly.

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14. Mention the key components of the SVAMITVA scheme. Also, highlight its intended benefits and discuss the potential issues in its implementation. **(250 words) 15**

स्वामित्व (SVAMITVA) योजना के प्रमुख अवयवों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके अपेक्षित लाभों को रेखांकित कीजिए तथा इसके कार्यान्वयन में संभावित मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

SVAMITVA =

Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Area.

Aim: update land records; provide record of rights to village households, and thus give them property cards.

Ministry: M/o Panchayati Raj, M/o Rural Development

Key components:

1. Implementation: via drones.
2. Village area will be mapped using drones (residential land area).
3. Drone → accurate measurement → state government property card.
4. Property cards will be recognized by government.

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benefits:

1. Non-disputable land record created
2. will help residents secure credit against ownership record
3. land records updated + property card given
   - → local Panchayat can use record to collect relevant taxes
   - → state land revenue departments too can use to collect taxes when applicable

   capacity increased to implement schemes better.

   Eg: Panchayat can implement sanitation and waste management schemes.

4. 2/3 or, ie ~ 66% of ALL CIVIL PENDING cases are related to land records
   ↓
   modernisation and digitalisation will help.

5. Property card → recognition → value of property increases ← better price if person wants to sell

6. Property card → recognition → land leasing possible → consolidation of land for agriculture → greater productivity

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Hence, benefits are across a variety of dimensions.

Challenges:

1. All land not inhabited — a lot of disputed land is kept vacant
2. Title ≠ property card —
   no property card can be disputed in court.
3. For tenancy reforms and for greater purchase/sale of land → title is more important

Way forward:

1. Hence, SWAMITVA is significant step forward.
2. We must build on this initiative, complete it soon (as planned by 2024) and then move towards TITLE RECORDS.

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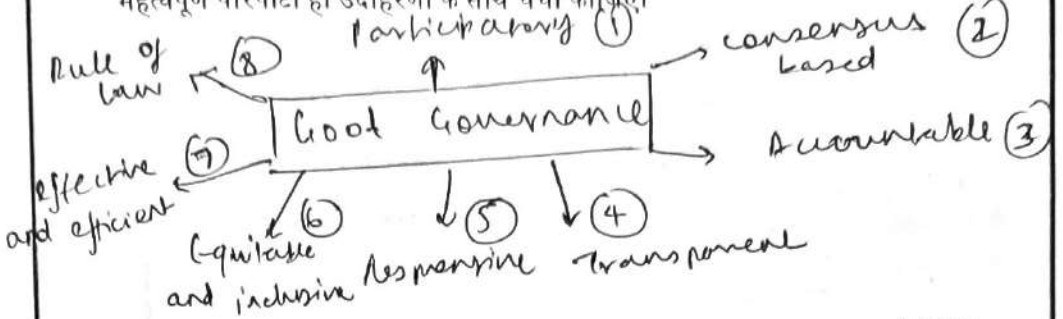
15. Sharing of information among all stakeholders in government functioning is a leading practice towards good governance. Discuss with examples.

(250 words) 15

सरकारी कार्यप्रणाली में सभी हितधारकों के मध्य सूचना को साझा करना सुशासन के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण परिपाटी है। उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।



looking at how sharing of information (info) among stakeholders will lead to each pillar of good governance:

1: info sharing between:
- people amongst one another
- people and administration

} = Participatory = Pillar (1).

eg: Environment Impact Assessment:
public consultation stage
⇓
Participatory → good governance pillar (1).

2: info sharing between:
- different government departments
- concerned 3rd party if any

} → concerns raised in advance

consensus ← resolved
= (2).

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Eg: ALTERNATIVE MECHANISM of diff cabinet ministers - all coming together to take key decisions such as bank merger by consensus

3,4: Info sharing → via RTI → accountability and transparency = (3) and (4)

Eg: Bagepalli town near Bangalore
↓
road not constructed
↓
RTI filed
↓
truth revealed.

5: info sharing between bureaucrat and contractors on a continuous basis.
↓
project concerns addressed continuously
↓
responsive = (5)

6: Info sharing:
→ data via surveys / census / etc
→ 3rd party audits - social audits
} better action taken

equity and inclusion ← to address areas left behind
= (6)

Eg: Govt use of ASER education survey data to improve education scheme targeting.

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and improve outcomes.

ASER 2019 → poor numeracy levels

Budget 2020 → National Numeracy Mission

Thus inclusion in education outcomes.

7, 8: corruption complaint → CVC
↓
info sharing with CBI, Lokpal
↓
quick investigation
⇓
efficient and rule of law
= (7) = (8).

Thus shown with examples how info sharing leads to all 8 pillars of good governance.

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16. India has an oversized and bloated government which acts as a drag on economic efficiency and growth. Critically evaluate. (250 words) 15

भारत में आवश्यकता से अधिक आकार और अतिशय दायित्वों को वहन करने वाली सरकार है, जो आर्थिक दक्षता एवं वृद्धि के संबंध में एक अवरोध के रूप में कार्य करती है। समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

The given question deals with issue of 'big' government v/s 'small' government, and its impact on economic efficiency.

Ideal as envisioned by ~~prime~~ honorable Prime minister is : ~~small government big government~~

"Minimum govt, maximum governance".

Big government → lot of employees
→ lot of spending
↳ inefficiency because of "crowding out of private sector".

Small government → less employees - less salary, pension bill
↳ efficient spending
↳ private sector can invest and country can grow.

Whether India has oversized and bloated government :

1. Number of employees at all levels of

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

government = 3 % of population

USA = 16 % of population.
It is even higher in Europe, China and much more than India in comparable countries like Brazil, China

Thus ~~not big~~ NOT BIG in terms of number of employees

2. GFCE : Government Final Expenditure as percent of GDP:
India ~ 11% (20 lakh crores / 190 lakh crores).
USA → $1 trillion / $20 trillion ⇒ 25%
Thus much higher, similarly in BRICS also.
Thus NOT BIG in terms of expenditure.

3. Subsidies : India ~ 2.6 lakh crore (1-2% of GDP)
USA, BRICS → much higher.
hence NOT BIG in term of SUBSIDY spending.

Yet :
1. Massive borrowing by Union and State government every year – crowding out of private borrowers.

Don't write anything this margin (for office use only)

2. Borrowing is needed despite low expenditure because of less tax payers and pathetic tax : GDP ratio.

3. 4% of Indian voters are tax payers. Economic Survey 2015, 16, 17 repeatedly observed desirable as comparison in BRICS countries is 23%

4. Tax : GDP India is 11% = PATHETIC
In USAD, BRICS it is usually >20%. (Economic Survey)

5. This is because more people evade taxes often in India, informal sector, black money, etc.

Hence government capacity remains low.
Hence even small governments seems big

This way forward:

1. Increase civic consciousness in people using behavioural economics (Economic Survey 19-20)
2. Punish dishonest tax payers
3. Increase government capacity thus.

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17. Though the National Digital Health Mission is a step in the right direction for both patients and the healthcare system, concerns around data privacy need to be addressed. Examine. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य मिशन रोगियों और स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली, दोनों के लिए उचित दिशा में उठाया गया एक कदम है, तथापि डेटा गोपनीयता से जुड़ी चिंताओं का समाधान किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

National Digital Health Mission was introduced this year (announced by honorable Prime Minister on independence day), with aim of providing affordable medical care to citizens.

How it is step in right direction for patients:

1. every citizen will have unique health IDs, digitised health records,

2. 6 pillars of scheme are

NDHM
- Health ID (1)
- Digi Doctor (2)
- Health Facility Registry (3)
- Personal Health Records (4)
- Telemedicine (5)
- e-Pharmacy (6)

3. Personal Health Record (4) ⇒ no hassles of storing records + portability from one facility to another, portability from

Don't write anything this margin

One Hole to another, etc.

4. (3) e Pharmacy → ease of access to all medicines including Generics
(4) ⇓
less Out of Pocket Expenditure.

5. (2) Digi Doctor → ease of access to care, doctor → ease of Living

6. Similarly for telemedicine (6).

7. in emergency situation → if patient is unconscious → doctor can still access health records via Health Registry
↓
patient saved

Why step in right direction for Providers:

1. Not responsible for maintaining all data.
2. National Health ~~agen~~ Authority will figure out health registry.
3. Insurance companies get correct data
↓
easier for health insurance
↓
better social security
4. Pharma companies can get data for RnD → faster drug design → better health care //.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Yet there are privacy concerns such as:

1. Sale of anonymized data to pharma companies / insurance providers
   ↓
   misuse
   ↓
   exploitation of citizens via expensive products.

2. Cyber security – safety of data.

3. Once access to data has been given, can it be taken back?

4. Track guidelines for private players to use data not known

Hence these privacy challenges must be addressed before nation wide roll out across all domains

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18. One Nation One Ration card has the potential to significantly transform the lives of migrant workers in India. Analyse. (250 words) 15
वन नेशन वन राशन कार्ड में भारत में प्रवासी श्रमिकों के जीवन को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से रूपांतरित करने की क्षमता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

~~The~~ During ongoing pandemic, nation wide lock down was announced on March 24. No one had expected the migrant exodus that happened to happen.

It is related to One Nation One Ration card, as: ~~If there was Ration card port~~

1. If there was nation card portability, migrants would have been able to procure at low cost in destination urban area.
2. Exodus happened as they ~~are~~ became unemployed, and were soon left with no savings.
3. Cost of living and food is much higher in urban areas - hence they were unable to afford - hence exodus

~~It will also have other advantages as~~

~~Concept~~

Current scenario:

1. Ration card works only at ~~residence area~~ ~~the PDS~~ PDS shop near to area of residence //.

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2. Thus utility becomes useless, for a migrant worker.

3. Number of migrants in India = 37% of population (census 2011)

4. Out of which 85% are INTRA-STATE migrants and 15% INTER-STATE.

ONE Nation one Ration card:

1. Ration card portability - within, outside state
2. Technology enabled solution:
3. Standard card format for portability
4. bi-lingual card format: local language + Hindi / English
   to make use feasible at destination.

5. POS at destination.

Thus implementation is good policy wise, as well as using technology.

Other advantages:

1. Some PDS shops are corrupt
   ↓
   beneficiaries don't have to depend on

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a particular PDS shops anymore.

2. WOMEN USERS → most commonly manage ~~shopping~~ purchase from PDS for family
↓
more ease of access, purchase, less harassment.

3. Migrant workers benefit – BOTH inter state and intra state.

Thus, comprehensive ~~for~~ food security net as a LEGAL RIGHT (from NFSA).

Challenges:

- some states have alleged it is contrary to principles of federalism
↓
counter: States don't have to mandatorily implement.
If they implement, they'll be eligible to borrow additional loans from market.
Thus, 17 states so far have implemented

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19. The World Trade Organization is buffeted by multiple challenges which have eroded the credibility of the organization. Analyse. (250 words) 15
विश्व व्यापार संगठन कई चुनौतियों से ग्रस्त है, जिसने संगठन की विश्वसनीयता को समाप्त कर दिया है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

WTO came into existance as a result of Uruguay round of negotiations in 1994 (WTO set up 1995)
↳ Marrakesh Treaty.

Its objective is to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers to global trade.

However it is facing multiple challenges today:

1. Dispute settlement:
→ ~~Dispute~~ Dispute settlement Appelate Board needs 3 members to function.
→ members selected by consensus
→ USA blocking appointments
→ thus inactive.
→ India recently announced: won't accept Dispute Body's awards as appellate mechanism is dysfunctional

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2. Doha development agenda:
→ Doha round of negotiations - 2001
→ still not concluded.

3. Bali Conference: (2013)
→ Peace clause on agriculture subsidies
→ Trade facilitation agreement

3. Peace clause of subsidies:
→ what was supposed to be temporary has become permanent (2017)
→ This is bad because subsidies are a form of non-tariff barrier, ~~and~~
→ more subsidy = more fertilizer use
= more pollution, soil erosion

4. Buenos - Aires summit (2017)
→ no conclusion reached.

5. MFN status violated:
→ Pakistan never gave India
→ India took back after ~~[illegible]~~ Pulwama attack.

6. Trade treaties violated
→ USA - China trade war.
→ China taking unilateral actions against several other countries and behaving unethically, illegally //

Don't write anything this margin (space area & page on finish)

7. Partial agreements. Eg:
   - Information Technology agreement

Hence, WTO is increasingly becoming dysfunctional.

Countries are responding by signing partial trade agreements such as:

1. RCEP - ASEAN + free trade partners
2. Trans Pacific Partnership (TP)
3. USMCA
4. Similarly, in Africa and South America also

Way forward:

1. must resolve disputes on WTO which is appropriate platform
2. current situation will just build greater walls among nations
3. If these walls become permanent, then breaking them down will be difficult
4. To begin, members may be appointed to dispute settlement board

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. BIMSTEC is indispensable for India's efforts in promoting regional cooperation and integration in the neighbourhood. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**
बिम्सटेक (BIMSTEC) पड़ोस में क्षेत्रीय सहयोग और एकीकरण को बढ़ावा देने की दिशा में किए जाने वाले भारत के प्रयासों हेतु अपरिहार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

BIMSTEC is popularly refered to as body where South Asia meets South East Asia.

BIMSTEC = Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation.

Members = India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, Sri Lanka.

India's sensible for India's efforts in regional cooperation and integration because:

(I) Because of Pakistan sponsored terrorism, SAARC has become dysfunctional.

(II) Economic arguments:

1. World Bank report:
"Glass half filled" of trade in South Asia, South East Asia.
Potential $60 billion. current < $20 billion

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Counter to RCEP.
3. Better value to common products exported:
   Eg: India, Bangladesh, Thailand, Myanmar all export rice.
   Joint marketing → better price

(III) Strategic dimensions:

1. China increasingly interfering in South China sea and Bay of Bengal.
2. China has border dispute with Nepal, India, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, (ie all countries with which it has border in BIMSTEC).
3. can set joint coastal security mechanisms, hence also safeguard fishing assets and EEZ in Bay of Bengal and South China sea against Chinese invasion jointly.
4. Nepal, Sri Lanka suffer from debt from China – this can counter that.

(IV) Historical / cultural dimensions

1. India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan shared history.

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2. Cultural similarity - in terms of family life, shared value to family and elders and teachers, etc.
3. India - Myanmar - Thailand ancient history links via imperial Cholas.

(V) Transport and logistics projects:

1. BBIN initiative (motor vehicle agreement)
2. Indo - Myanmar - Thailand bilateral highway
3. Kaladan multimodal project with Myanmar
4. Cross border rail, inland waterway projects with Bangladesh.
5. All these projects when complete will act as development and growth enablers, and drive trade

(VI) Environment:

1. Similar latitude and agro-climatic zones - shared future.
2. Coastlines threatened from sea water intrusion, sea water rise, etc.
3. Temperature rise, rainfall variation - livelihoods threatened.
4. Threat to both MEKONG and GANGA

Hence, across dimensions BIMSTEC is crucial to India

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1524)

Name of Candidate	Kush		
Medium Eng./Hindi		Registration Number	916052
Center		Date	01/01/2021

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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18	15	
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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Tenancy reforms are much needed to give a boost to the Indian agricultural sector. Comment. In this context, also discuss the significance of the Model Land Leasing Act, 2016. **(150 words) 10**

भारतीय कृषि क्षेत्रक को बढ़ावा देने के लिए काश्तकारी सुधारों की अत्यंत आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, मॉडल भूमि पट्टा अधिनियम, 2016 के महत्व की भी विवेचना कीजिए।

A tenant is ~~a farmer~~ anyone on a rented or leased property.

In context of agriculture, tenancy reforms are needed to:

1. ~~no~~ ~~ver~~ population explosion + land reforms
   ↓
   land holdings have become economically unviable for investment
   ↓
2. No institutional framework for land leasing
   ↓
   no private investment in agriculture
   ↓
   no growth of sector.

3. informal tenants currently exploited, because of no redressal mechanism

4. Former inequality is increasing (since most beneficiaries are land owners).

5. State subject (land, agriculture)
   ↓
   Everything varies from state to state

Thus, tenancy reforms are much needed

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to boost agriculture sector.

NITI model land leasing Act 2016 aims to ~~remove~~ create institutional framework for land leasing:

1. legalise land leasing - set out procedure
2. Enable leased land to be security for the tenant (such as for credit, bank account, etc)
3. Remove clauses of adverse possession
   ↓
   land can't be taken away/ ownership can't be changed
4. Leasing agreement for fixed time period only

Advantages:

1. consolidation of unoperational landholdings, such as current fallow, ~~land other~~ ~~than~~ cultivable wasteland, etc
2. Access to credit, bank facilities
3. Protection of tenants
4. Investment in agriculture - by reaching scale
5. no fear of ownership change
6. creation of land banks, ~~new for~~

Thus, tenancy reforms as well as implementation of Model land leasing Act is much needed to DOUBLE FARMER INCOMES.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Identify the various challenges that have restricted the entry of Indian MSMEs into the foreign market. Also mention some government initiatives that have been taken to facilitate MSME exports. (150 words) 10

विदेशी बाजारों में भारतीय MSMEs के प्रवेश को बाधित करने वाली विभिन्न चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए। साथ ही, MSME के निर्यात को सुगम बनाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा की गई कुछ पहलों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

MSMEs contribute to about 40 % of Indian exports, and employ over 12 cr people.

Yet their export potential has been much underutilized, because of challenges that have restricted their entry:

1. No digital marketing / digital presence.
2. No GI tag / lack of awareness
3. No HS N codes – some countries only accept imports of items which have HSN code.
   Eg: Khadi got HSN code only few years ago.
4. No infrastructure connectivity to rail/ports
   Eg: North East India.
   ~~Exports~~ Exports are rising exponentially in past few years, as they become connected by initiatives such as UDAN, Act East, etc

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. Working capital and delayed payment:
Can't process big orders.
This was biggest problem identified by Vic Sinha Committee on MSME

6. DWARfism: Staying small to avoid government benefit – problem identified in Economic Survey 2020.

Steps taken:

1. Definition changed: Micro upto 5 cr, medium 50 cr, small 250 cr as according to new definitions (turnover)

2. Credit guarantee → CGTMSE

3. Working capital: → MUDRA Yojana
↳ MUDRA card etc

4. Invoice factoring → via TREDS platform
↓
less delayed payments
↓
better capacity.

5. Other steps and schemes to upgrade technology such as ATUFS, SFURTI

6. PSB loans in 59 minutes for quick loans

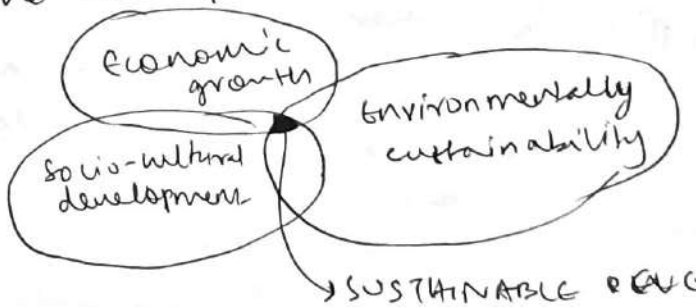
Hence government has taken necessary steps to support them and remove them from vicious cycle of dwarfism //.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. India's march towards inclusive growth and it achieving the Sustainable Development Goals are intricately linked. Discuss. (150 words) 10
समावेशी विकास की दिशा में भारत की प्रगति और संधारणीय विकास लक्ष्यों की प्राप्ति जटिल रूप से जुड़े हुए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

OECD defines inclusive growth as growth that is distributed fairly across society and creates opportunities for all. Some elements of inclusive growth are social development, economic growth, technological advancement of all, financial inclusion, skill development, etc.

Sustainable development goals (SDGs) were adopted at UN General Assembly in 2015, as the development agenda for 2015-2030.



SDGs are 17 goals, with 169 indicators, far reaching and comprehensive.

Hence, inclusive growth and SDG achievement are intricately tied as'.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. SDG # 1 no poverty (India's targets)
SDG # 2 zero hunger (Eg: double farmers income)
SDG # 3 good health (Eg: IMR < 70, Under 5 Mortality Rate < 11)
SDG # 4 quality education
(Eg: 100% enrolment at secondary level).

↓

social development
+
inclusive ~~[illegible]~~ growth.

2. SDG # 8 : good jobs and economic growth, including right to work
↓
economic growth
↓
inclusive growth

3. SDG # 9 : innovation and infrastructure
Eg : provide road connectivity to all
India initiative : PM Gram Sadak Yojana
↓
inclusive growth

4. SDG # 10 : reduce inequality → progressive taxation
inclusive growth ←

Thus seen some examples of how they are intricately linked

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. Highlight the need for evolving an appropriate system of Rules Of Origin in regional trading arrangements. What steps have been taken by India recently in this regard? **(150 words) 10**
क्षेत्रीय व्यापार व्यवस्थाओं में उत्पत्ति के नियमों की एक उपयुक्त प्रणाली विकसित करने की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालिए। हाल ही में, भारत द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

Regional trading agreements and free Trade agreements have preferential rates on imports.

Eg: India allows many imports from Srilanka at 0% customs duty

Yes, ~~Rules~~ Rules of origin is a mechanism by which minimum "x %" manufacturing/ processing / value addition must be done in the free trade partner country (in this case Sri Lanka).

FTA agreements sometimes have "rules of origin", sometimes not.

Need for Rules of origin:

1. Eg: it was observed that chinese companies manufacture in China, phony/ shell chinese company in Srilanka puts label "Made in Sri Lanka" on product, and exports to India

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Ie, chinese firms taking illegal advantage of India's FTA with Sri Lanka.
3. Similar loopholes were observed in other FTA such as with singapore.
4. This is threat to regional trade, as the violating party violates
   → WTO norms
   → FTA norms.

Hence, in Budget 2020, India took significant steps to close such loopholes and not allow such unethical and illegal businesses:

1. India's FTA with Srilanka revised, for "Rules of origin"
2. with Singapore.
3. RCEP not joined because of lack of agreement over "rules of origin"
4. e-commerce companies directed to highlight origin of product / tell supplier to highlight.
5. new customs rules ~~#~~ certificate of origin needed

These measures will help consumers take informed decision regarding their product choices

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. MSP regime is a creation of an era of scarcity in the 1960s. Discuss its relevance in the current era of surplus agricultural production.

(150 words) 10

MSP व्यवस्था 1960 के दशक के अभावग्रस्तता के युग का एक आविष्कार है। अधिशेष कृषि उत्पादन के वर्तमान समय में इसकी प्रासंगिकता की विवेचना कीजिए।

MSP regime started in 1960s, when India was suffering from a famine post Indo-China war of 1962, and when Green Revolution was beginning.

Since then:

1. Food production has increased AT LEAST 6 times.
2. Land reforms / tenancy reforms neither have taken place
   ↓
   84% of Indian farmers are small / marginal (< 2 acre land holding)
   ↓
   they are not able to produce in scale to travel to APMC to sell at MSP.
   ↓
   they sell to local traders below MSP.
3. MSP is utilized by 6% of ~~large~~ total farmers in the country ~~only~~ thus ONLY
4. While MSP is announced for 23 crops, in reality procurement is done only

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

for rice and wheat, and sometimes for pulses and oilseeds.

5. MSP thus does NOT provide any safety net to MAJORITY farmers

6. MSP was supposed to be minimum price, but because of MCP and FCI procurement, and thus lack of competition, it has in reality become Maximum price.

7. FCI has to procure rice and wheat more than its buffer requirement, and hence it has excess stocks which are often wasted.

8. It also has to take off-budget borrowing to make payments for procurement/storage.

Thus, MSP has many problems.

Yet, It is not relevant in today's era of changed economic structures.

As a support indicator price should be its only use

Recent agricultural ordinances are thus welcome in their regards, as they shall help lessen dependence of MSP.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

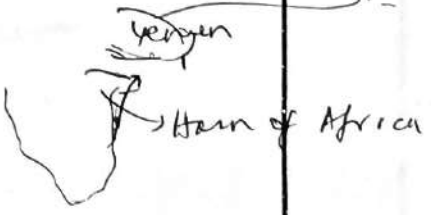
6. Examine the link between the recent locust attack and climate change. (150 words) 10

हाल ही में हुए टिड्डियों के हमले और जलवायु परिवर्तन के मध्य संबंध का परीक्षण कीजिए।

To understand between recent locust attack and climate change, :

1. Indian ocean dipole - difference between temperature of west and east Indian ocean.
   the POSITIVE phase ⇒ west Indian ocean (Arabian sea), (Persian Gulf), (Red sea) temperature is warmer.

2. 2017 : LIKING climate change global warming
   ↓
   AND indian ocean dipole the POSITIVE
   ↓
   high temperature in Red sea → Asia
   ↓
   cyclone in Yemen.



3. Desert region in Yemen + cyclone
   → breeding ground for desert locusts
   number of locusts expand.

4. 2017-18 : locusts cross over ~~the cyclone~~ Red sea to Somalia, Ethopia in Horn of Africa — FOOD CRISIS.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. 2019 :- Locusts expand to Iran, Pakistan - food crisis

6. 2020 : Indian Ocean Dipole Positive + global warming
↓
high moisture + cyclone in Arabian sea
↓
locust carried over to India from Pakistan - Iran - Afghanistan

Thus, there is link between locust attack and global warming via increasing cyclones in west Indian Ocean, thus increasing moisture and temperature

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. Highlighting the properties of Carbon Nanotubes, discuss its applications. (150 words) 10

कार्बन नैनोट्यूब्स के गुणधर्मों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इसके अनुप्रयोगों की विवेचना कीजिए।

The properties of Carbon Nanotubes (Allotropes of carbon) are as follows:

1. Very high surface area to volume
2. Size of the particles / structure moving to a quantum realm → properties greatly altered
3. They are allotropes of carbon having a tubular shape.
4. Made of graphite
5. extremely stiff, strong
6. Electrical properties – because of size of particles being in quantum realm
7. Heat conduction properties – same reason as last point

Some of its applications are:

1. Possibility of new building materials, much stronger and lighter than steel.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. This would greatly help in disaster resilient applications

3. Application in electronics: storing data
⇓
Nano-RAM for computing
⇓
Super computers faster

4. Renewable energy: → storage of renewable power
↓
Solar panels: electron capture coatings
→ Solar panels: electricity conduction

5. Nano medicine: delivery of smart drugs

6. Pollution control: filtration of water

considering these benefits and potential applications, government has launched Nano Mission (Department of Science and Technology). A Nano technology Initiative Division has also been set up in MEITY

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. India's domestic patent regime privileges public health over pharmaceutical industry's interests. Comment. (150 words) 10
भारत की घरेलू पेटेंट व्यवस्था औषध उद्योग के हितों पर सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य को विशेषाधिकार प्रदान करती है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The given statement deals with India's compulsory patent licensing laws

India's is largest producer of generic (low cost) medicine, and one of the fastest growing pharma industries of the world. It is hence called pharmacy of the world. Yet, patent regime:

→ Allows compulsory licensing, ie, if IN PUBLIC interest, government can take compulsory license of a patent, and allow a government/other pharma company to manufacture it for public health purposes.

→ It prevents ever greening of patents. Evergreening = making minor/cosmetic changes to extend patent duration.

→ It allows government to use patent for research/other purposes.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Eg: COMPULSORY licensing was done in
→ 2012: Shortage of anticancer drug Nexavar in market.
→ patent held by Bayer Pharma (German)
→ cost of 120 tablets = ₹ 2.50 lakhs
↓
unaffordable for Indian healthcare system.
→ So, compulsory license → NATCO
↓
₹ 8880 for 120 tablets
↓
6% royalty to Bayer

Yet, it would be wrong to say that pharma industry interests are compromised because:
1. WTO norms allow compulsory license for public health.
2. India has used compulsory license clause ONLY ONCE – above example – NEVER ANY OTHER TIME.
3. Evergreening of patents is not allowed by many other countries also.

Hence, it can be said that the protections are for extreme cases, when there is shortage and it is completely unaffordable, as is evidenced by above analysis

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. Bring out the arguments surrounding the idea of employing the principle of 'one border - one force' on Indian borders. (150 words) 10

भारतीय सीमाओं पर 'एक सीमा-एक बल' के सिद्धांत का उपयोग करने के विचार के चतुर्दिक व्याप्त तर्कों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Current scenario :

Various borders are managed and safeguarded by different agencies such as

1. BSF - border security force
   ↓
   Bangladesh, Pakistan

2. ITBP → Indo Tibetian Border Police
   ↓
   China

3. Assam Rifles → Myanmar border

4. Sashastra Seema Bal → SSB
   ↓
   Nepal, Bhutan

All of these forces :

1. have different organisation / reporting authorities
2. division of answerability →
   → to MoHome Affairs
   → to MoDefence.
3. No joint coordination / information sharing / exchange of best practices.

Hence, "One Border - One Force" has been proposed.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Arguments in favor:

1. Coordination, joint answerability
2. Sharing of best practices.
3. Single point of answerability
4. Often arms, drugs traffickers use multiple borders – Eg: sometimes Myanmar border, sometimes Bangladesh border.
   ↓
   would help plan anti-trafficking better.
5. ~~Single point of~~ coordination between civilian administration and other stakeholders for development and success of Border Area Development Program.

Arguments Against:

1. Myanmar border – forest; Bangladesh border – river; Pakistan border – desert + mountain; China border – uninhabited high altitudes. Thus geography is different – currently each force is separately trained correspondingly
2. Nature of neighbors – All borders are not strictly closed – Eg: friendly border with Nepal/Bhutan v/s border with Pakistan.

~~3. Chaghar sent out~~

Thus, in any case, a single point coordinating agency must be created, even if not one force

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Assess the need to create a new cadre of Indian Frontier Administrative Service to undertake the vital tasks at Indian frontiers. (150 words) 10
भारतीय सीमांतों पर महत्वपूर्ण कार्यों को संपादित करने के लिए भारतीय सीमांत प्रशासनिक सेवा का एक नया संवर्ग बनाने की आवश्यकता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Indian Frontier Administrative Service (IFAS) is an old idea, that was implemented temporarily in erstwhile NEFA (North East Frontier Administration).

Proposal for new cadre of IFAS is proposed as single authority for:
1. development of border areas.
2. civilian - military border area coordination
3. capacity building in residents of border areas.

Need:
1. Implementing agency for:
PM Gram Sadak Yojana in country is MoRural Development, yet in border areas is Border Roads organisation under M/o Defence
2. IG, often plans, schemes, etc are implemented in border areas differently than rest of country.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Border areas have presence of military police which leads to heightened stress among public even in peacetime (in some sensitive districts)

4. Hence: → border areas haven't been able to develop to potential
→ infrastructure connectivity is weak (North East, Kashmir).
→ Technology is not used to full potential.

5. There are also frequent friction between civilian administration and military police administration.

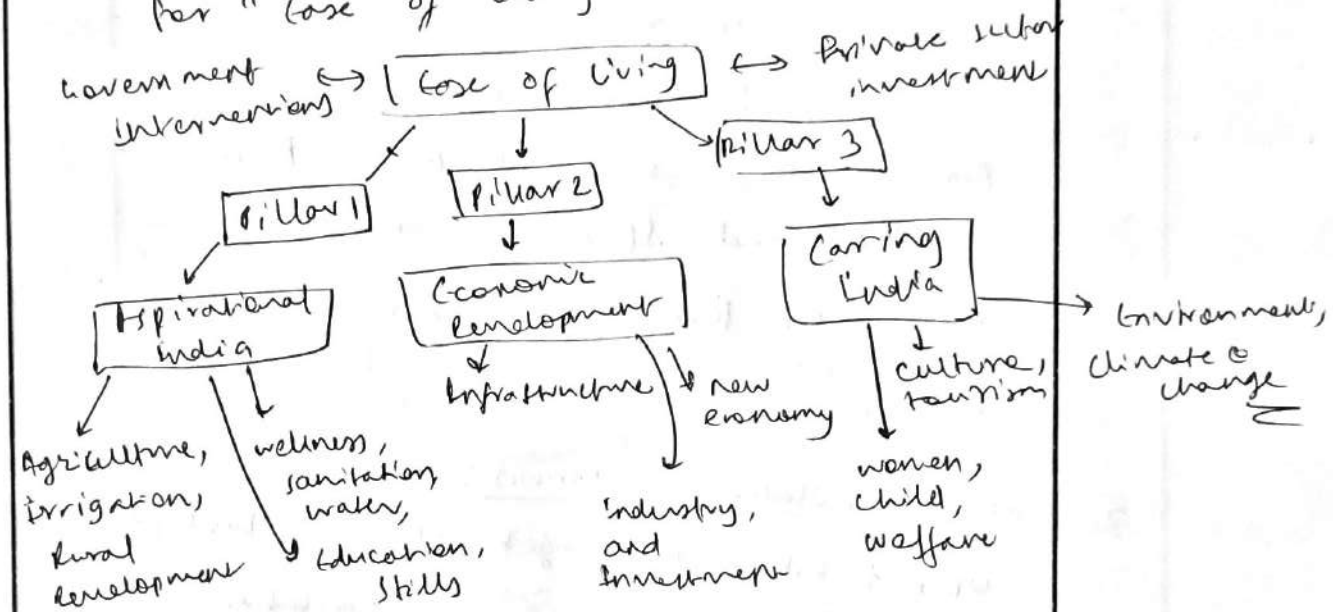
IFAS as single coordinating authority at border areas can potentially resolve these issues, and usher in development and infrastructure to secure lives and livelihoods of people in border areas

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. The main objective of Union Budget 2020-21 is to provide "Ease of Living" to all citizens. Analyse the framework proposed in the Budget 2020-21 to achieve this objective. **(250 words) 15**

केंद्रीय बजट 2020-21 का मुख्य उद्देश्य सभी नागरिकों को "ईज़ ऑफ़ लिविंग" (जीवन सुगमता) प्रदान करना है। इस उद्देश्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए बजट 2020-21 में प्रस्तावित ढांचे का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The framework proposed in Budget 2021 for "Ease of Living" is as follows:



~~Look~~ Pillar I:

1. Agriculture, Irrigation, Rural development:

Proposals in Budget:

→ PM KUSUM: solar for farmer

→ set up upto 2 MW solar power in barren land

→ solar pump to reduce diesel consumption

→ 1 lakh crore Agriculture and food processing fund

Don't write anything this margin

→ Incentives and interest subsidy for farmers, and FPOs
→ Liberalisation of agriculture sector

2. Education and Skills:
→ New Education Policy launched
→ Focus on digital education in pandemic year
→ For Skill: focus on apprenticeships.
→ For skills: focus on PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana and Skill India Mission.
→ SWAYAM - SAT test launched for foreign students.

3. Water, Sanitation, wellness:
→ ODF + achieved, target ODF ++, Water+
→ 2019-2024 10 year Rural Sanitation Strategy
→ Atal Bhujal Yojana, Har Ghar Jal initiatives
→ Waste water processing in PPP

Pillar II 1. Infrastructure
→ National Infrastructure Pipeline → ₹ 111 lakh crore (24% energy, 19% roads, 16% urban)
→ New Border Road projects
→

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Industry and Investment:
- → FDI norms relaxed.
- → ECB norms relaxed - all companies can borrow upto 750 million $
- → FPI norms relaxed → routes such as FAR, VRR, etc

2. New Economy:
- → Liberalisation of agriculture
- → new auction policy for minerals, etc

Pillar III:

1. Women, child and welfare:
- → labour code on social security.
- → consolidation of labor laws.
- → GER (girls) > GER (boys) in education

2. Culture and Tourism:
- → 5 new museums announced: Lalchigarhi, Ahichhatrum, Sibasagar, Dholavira, Hastinapur.
- → Maritime museum at Lothal
- → Museum of Trade at Old Mint Buildings, Kolkata

3. Environment.
- → focus on renewable energy
- → Urban forest scheme ~~Van Dhan~~ Nagar Van Yojana.

Hence budget 2020-21 has taken comprehensive steps for "ease of

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Several challenges are needed to be addressed to realise the full benefits of the recent agricultural marketing reforms. Discuss. (250 words) 15
हालिया कृषि विपणन सुधारों के पूर्ण लाभों को साकार करने के लिए अनेक चुनौतियों का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Recent agriculture marketing reforms and challenges are as follows.

(I) Reform I :

Legislation : APMC related:

Features: Legislation to prevail over state APMC laws; provision for intra and inter state trade in all agricultural commodities;

Challenges:

1. The legislation prohibits states from levying any tax on such trade
↓
State's fiscal capacity decreases
↓
farmer welfare suffers

2. No registration / de-registration norms for traders.
eg: recently, a trader registered, purchased commodities using new laws, and de-registered as a trader
↓
farmers' produce taken without payment.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Swaminathan committee recommendations on prices not implemented
↓
farmers will continue to get low prices
↓
potential not achieved

Legislation: Contract farming.

Features: Permits advance agreement between farmer and buyer before production.

Challenges:

1. Price discovery process might not be realized, if significant proportion of one commodity is purchased via contract farming.

Eg: If all potato is purchased from XYZ district via contract
↓
potato doesn't reach market
↓
no price discovery
↓
farmers may get lower price by contract

~~2. Contract has no~~

2. Model contracts might be needed for different types of deals, to prevent exploitation of farmers.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Legislation 3: Essential commodities Act

Feature: food commodities not essential commodities; no stocking limits except in extreme cases.

Challenges:

1. Recently government re-imposed export ban and stocking limit on onion despite amendment
2. Knee jerk reactions by government continuing to prevent investment.

General challenges:

1. Implementation depends on state government
   ↓
   No incentive for state government
2. Environment of distrust may prevent potential from being reached.
3. Cold storage, supply chain still not good to help best utilisation of amendments
4. Similarly, weaknesses in forward and backward linkages and infrastructure bottlenecks

Thus, all these challenges must be resolved for sector to reach its potential

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. Multimodal transport requires multiple integrations across different modes of transportation. Substantiate. What are the challenges and opportunities associated with multimodal transportation for India? (250 words) 15

बहुविध परिवहन (मल्टीमॉडल ट्रांसपोर्ट) के लिए परिवहन के विभिन्न साधनों के मध्य विविध रूप से एकीकरण की आवश्यकता है। पुष्टि कीजिए। भारत के लिए बहुविध परिवहन से जुड़ी चुनौतियां और अवसर क्या हैं?

Multimodal transport is generally studied at two levels → inter-city
→ At country level.

(1) National level:

Some examples are:

1. Imported goods at Haldia port
Jal Marg - National Waterway I
→ Haldia - Varanasi → From goods train at Varanasi to Delhi
Delhi Mumbai Industrial corridor
→ Rajasthan

ie, shipping, inland waterway, rail and road used for import

2. Tribal villages in Assam
UDAN flights ← Guwahati
→ Myanmar: ie, road, and air for export.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Integrations across multiple modes needed

1. In first example - dry port at Varanasi needed. Similar dry ports exist at Hazira (Gujarat), Patna, and 20+ are under construction.
2. For second example - close integration needed at airline logistics.
3. In general, there must be automated/semi-automated integration points for smoothless journeys of goods/individuals

Advantages and Opportunities:

1. Infrastructure potential untapped as a growth and development multiplier.
   Eg: Jal Marg Vikas project → makes Ganga "Arth Ganga".
2. Similarly for cross border India - Bangladesh waterways - railway - roadway projects → unlock cross border trade → Eg: Sonamura - Sandkandi Gomati River.
3. India - Myanmar - Kaladan Multimodal transport project: Haldia → Sittwe → Kaladan river → Tripura/Mizoram
4. Will help India increase exports, by connecting North East, and Act East, in addition to projects like Sagarmala and

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

terrain integration with Industrial corridors

Challenges: 1. Land acquisition
2. Eg: ILFS was funding some projects
3. Delays in construction

(ii) Inter-city:
within a city, multimodal transport is mainly for daily commuters, it is key component of AMRUT and Smart City.

Example: Bangalore: Walk → Bus → Train → Office

Advantages and opportunities:
1. helps reduce congestion in metro cities.
2. Helps reduce cost of travel for daily commuters
3. Helps reduce greenhouse emissions by private vehicles.

Challenges:
1. Financing issues: Eg: Bangalore metro delayed by multiple years.
2. Construction increases congestion before project is completed
3. Public spaces and parks encroached

Hence multimodal transport in India is a key component of infrastructure

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Though COVID-19 pandemic exposes the vulnerability of Informal sector and associated labor force in India, it also presents an opportunity to rebalance formal-informal economy dynamics in the country. Discuss.
(250 words) 15

हालांकि, कोविड-19 महामारी भारत में अनौपचारिक क्षेत्रक और संबद्ध श्रम बल की सुभेद्यता को उजागर करती है, लेकिन साथ ही यह देश में औपचारिक-अनौपचारिक अर्थव्यवस्था की गतिशीलता को संतुलित करने का एक अवसर भी प्रस्तुत करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Nationwide lockdown was announced on march 24. The migrant loading that followed was not expected either by source or destination states, by union government or by civil society.

The reasons for the migrant crisis was:

1. As urban areas shut down, informal workers lost jobs.
2. Not having savings to rely on, with high urban cost of living, they were forced to travel home

Thus COVID-19 pandemic has exposed vulnerability of informal sector and associated labor force in India.

Other evidence is:

- Unemployment rate increased from 6% to 23%
  - 6% → PLFS-2017
  - 23% → OECD report

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में लिखें नहीं)

2. Consumption greatly declined - which is evidence of low savings
3. Dependence on schemes like MGNREGA and PDS increased.
(MGNREGA highest ever man hours this year)
4. GDP fall in 1st quarter by 23.5 %
Yet, it is also opportunity to balance formal - informal economy dynamics as:
1. Skilling programs to all unemployed who have returned to source states & come within formal security net and government data
~~Credit linked subsidy programs.~~
Various governments including Union have already started this.
2. Skill mapping of returned migrant workers - help match them with potential employers - within formal system.
Eg: Delhi government has launched portal for the same

Don't write anything this margin (for examiner's use only)

3. Credit linked subsidy programs for financial inclusion and working capital.
Eg: PM SVANidhi
↳ Street vendors loans upto ₹ 10000.
↳ once they are within financial system, they are not only saved from informal moneylenders, but also get access to future government initiatives

4. New labour codes passed, including labour code on social security.
It seeks to provide minimum level of social security to all workers including contract labourers

5. contract labour implementation - will save informal workers from exploitation of middlemen.
Eg: In recent labor violence at Wistron factory (mobile assembly) - it was alleged that labourers were hired via contractors who were not paid.

6. Minimum wage reforms - as according to Anoop Satpathy committee recommendations.

Thus, COVID-19 crisis in labor force is opportunity for reforms //

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. Highlight the drivers and challenges facing India's ambition to become a gas-based economy. Mention the steps that have been taken by the government recently in this regard. (250 words) 15

गैस आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था बनने की भारत की महत्वाकांक्षा के चालकों और सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों को रेखांकित कीजिए। इस संबंध में हाल ही में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

NITI Aayog and Government have been pushing concept of gas based economy. The concept is that of cleaner natural gas, and gas based fuel gradually replacing coal and petrol from India's energy mix.

The drivers and challenges can be seen in 2 dimensions → conventional gas
→ non-conventional gas

Conventional: [i.e natural gas, liquified petrol gas (LPG)]

(1) Current status:
1. currently ~6% of energy mix,
2. Target: ~15% by 2030
3. currently: most is imported (via ports at Gujarat from Middle East)

(2): Production:
1. KG basin (Krishna Godavari) ~~basin~~ has started production, to reduce dependence on imports.
2. North East ~~B~~ (near Assam, Tripura), gas is ~~proposed~~ produced//, ; in Gujarat also

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ न लिखें)

Primary:

1. Open Acreage licensing policy: joint exploration.
2. Composite exploration cum production license.
3. Production will lead to reducing dependence on imports → precious forex saved
4. Pricing and Marketing reforms:
   → competitive and international norms
   → more transparency in pricing
   → market linked
   → can be brought under GST in future
5. Very low emissions – need for gas based economy is to ~~the~~ meet INDC
7. Infrastructure:
   → currently dependent on old pipelines like HBJ pipeline from Hazira, Gujarat.
   → PM Urja Ganga – northern states of UP, Bihar, Jharkhand – will greatly benefit
   → pipeline from KG basin completed
8. for LPG: ~~PMU~~ PAHAL, PM Ujjwala, household use, automobile is driving

Challenges:

1. Not under GST – price for buyers still high
2. Infrastructure – deadlines missed.
3. ~~Imports~~ Imports have not reduced

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10 Unconventional: (coal bed methane, coal gas, bio gas, ~~etc~~, gas hydrates, etc)

Drivers:

1. SATAT: CBG - compressed biogas
   → promotion of CBG as automobile fuel
2. Swachh Bharat → GOBAR dhan
   ↓
   incentives to rural entrepreneurs to generate biogas.
3. Similarly → CLTG compost scheme.
4. Gas hydrate exploration plan
   & Deep ocean mission.
5. Plan to check feasibility of other unconventional means

Challenges:

1. cost is high
2. Too much competition from other renewables hinders their development - as they are at nascent stage

The Gas based economy is crucial part of meeting India's INDC thru 2030, and all initiatives must continue on war footing

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Climate Change and the associated events endanger the marine and coastal ecosystems while increasing the vulnerability of coastal population. Examine. (250 words) 15

जलवायु परिवर्तन और संबद्ध घटनाएं तटीय जनसंख्या की सुभेद्यता को बढ़ाते हुए समुद्री एवं तटीय पारिस्थितिक तंत्रों को खतरे में डालती हैं। परीक्षण कीजिए।

Recently, lot of new and existing phenomenon ~~has been~~ have been observed, which indicate damage to marine and coastal eco systems, such as.

1. Marine heat waves:

→ IPCC special Report on Ocean and cryosphere in a changing climate said marine heat waves have been increasing in frequency and intensity

→ Doubled since 1982

→ This adversely effects fishing economy → fishing coastal population

2. Rate of ocean warming increasing:

→ From IPCC special report

→ Ocean has taken 90% of the excess heat in climate system since 1990s,

→ Thus, its rate of warming has more than doubled

→ Southern Ocean which was earlier less affected is also affected now – it has taken majority of heat since 2000s.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ This has adverse impact on marine biodiversity.

3. Rising sea level and coastal ecosystems:

→ Sea level rise by 9 cm already since 1970s.

→ set to increase by 24-30 cm by 2065, and 40-63 cm by 2100

→ (IPCC 5 data)

→ This will lead to sea water intrusion

biodiversity loss ← mangroves destroyed

↳ fishing livelihoods and coastal livelihoods threatened → coastal population can become climate refugees.

Bangladesh (at low level) might be one of earliest sufferers.

4. Increasing ocean acidification

↓

fishing economy disturbed

↓

population affected.

5. Warming ocean → thermal stress

← Coral bleaching

Tourism economy affected

↳ coastal population suffers.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. Changes in storm patterns → stronger, more frequent storms

reefs eroded, mangroves uprooted

→ tourism, agriculture suffers.

7. Recent Arctic expedition MOSAIC

↓

discovered phenomenon of Atlantification

↓

biodiversity losses, ocean current impacted

↓

European ports might freeze

↓

economy suffers

8. Coastal floods → water-borne diseases.

All these events will also be discriminatory in nature, ie, impact will be adversely felt by the poor, weak, vulnerable and marginalized.

thus, climate change and associated events endanger marine and coastal ecosystems and populations

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Using examples, highlight how natural ecosystems perform different hazard mitigation functions. (250 words) 15

उदाहरणों का उपयोग करते हुए, रेखांकित कीजिए कि प्राकृतिक पारिस्थितिक तंत्र किस प्रकार अलग-अलग संकट के शमन का कार्य करते हैं।

Natural ecosystems perform hazard mitigation in almost all circumstances.

(I) forests and grass lands:

→ prevent soil erosion
→ hence prevent desertification
→ hence prevent heatwaves / droughts
⇓
ie, hazard mitigation

Eg: Great Tree Belt Africa & Planned similar belt Along Rajasthan

(II): Forests and Plantations / forests on slopes:

→ prevent landslides
→ prevent floodwater discharge
→ hence perform hazard mitigation.

Eg: excessive deforestation →
↓
landslide in Kerala in Idukki this year

(III): Coastal mangroves / coastal coral reefs

→ protect from salt water intrusion
→ first barrier against cyclones.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ also provide some protection against larger disasters like tsunamis.

→ hence provide hazard protection

Eg: mangrove forest Sundarbans.

(IV) Riverine vegetation and grasslands:

→ prevent flooding of river in case of ~~excessive~~ excess rain by continuous filtration

→ prevent excessive silting of rivers due to erosion (by stopping soil erosion).

→ hence hazard mitigation

Eg: Riverine grasslands along Brahmaputra prevent excess damage to Kaziranga national Park.

(V) Agro forestry models:

→ lead to ground water recharge

→ thus ground water level builds up, instead of only groundwater exploitation in case of agriculture.

→ in drought year – ground water can be used //

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ नहीं लिखें)

→ Thus hazard mitigation.

Eg: Badland management practices,
Drought tool box UNCCD
(UN convention to combat Desertification).

(VI) Bamboomantra:

→ Indian initiative launched at UNCCD
→ Helps provide employment to tribal population, and prevent desertification
→ hazard mitigation here

Thus, variety of natural ecosystems, across mangroves, coral reefs, forests, mountain vegetation, riverine grasslands, bamboo forests, etc provide ~~forest~~ mitigation

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ न लिखें)

18. Explain what genome sequencing is and state the challenges in scaling up genome sequencing projects. Also, throw some light on the recently launched IndiGen Project. (250 words) 15

व्याख्या कीजिए कि जीनोम अनुक्रमण क्या है और जीनोम अनुक्रमण परियोजनाओं को बढ़ावा देने में विद्यमान चुनौतियों का वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, हाल ही में आरंभ की गई इंडिजेन (IndiGen) परियोजना पर कुछ प्रकाश डालिए।

A genome is DNA or sequence of genes in a cell. concept of genome sequencing:

1. All cells have pairs of chromosomes.
2. Each chromosome has 3 billion "base pairs"
3. One base pair is one of A-T / G-C molecules.
4. The order of these molecules determines genes, ie patterns which determine characteristics, and thus the entire organism.
5. Genome sequencing is process of figuring out EXACT ORDER of the base pairs in an individual.

Challenges in scaling up genome sequencing:-

1. Time consuming process
2. Error prone

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Large investment needed in computational life sciences.

4. Parallel processing hardware and software infrastructure needed to process and store large number of base pairs ↓ not easily available

B Indigen Project:

Origin:
→ CSIR sequenced first genome in India indigenously

Need:
→ Genome determines which proteins get synthesized
→ Genomes determine presence of genetic disability
→ Genome determines any active / passive pathway in body which might lead to any diseases
→ when genes are altered / mutated → DISEASE
→ most genome sequencing work has been done on western populations.
→ Hence disease treatment mechanisms are adapted to them.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ It is possible that there are some unique variations in our genome - understanding them can lead to better health efforts

→ Rare diseases are rarely diagnosed, and rarely treated

Hence, an India Genome sequencing project was much needed, especially considering diversity in India

Indigen Project features and AIM:

→ Prepare baseline data of Indian genome,
→ Build expertise in precision and personalized medicine using that
→ CSIR
→ ensure it represents diverse Indian ethnic groups
→ diagnosis of rare diseases
→ improve ultimately health of population

SCALE?
→ 20000 Indian Genomes in 5 years

RESULT?
→ 1000+ genomes sequenced so far
→ 33% variants FOUND UNIQUE TO INDIA

Hence justified need for project, in the long run it will be significant step in building health capacity //.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. India needs to avert radicalisation and societal dissention, as internal faultlines are a breeding ground for cyber and transnational terrorism. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारत को कट्टरपंथीकरण और सामाजिक मतभेदों को रोकने की आवश्यकता है, क्योंकि आंतरिक दरारें साइबर एवं पार-राष्ट्रीय आतंकवाद का जनन स्थल होती हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

"India with its enormous diversity, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, multi-regional, multi-religious", is always a place of a million mutinies". This quote captures how India has great diversity. Over time, lot of internal faultlines have come to the fore, and India has emerged stronger from each.

The current challenge is threat of radicalisation and societal dissentation leading to cyber and transnational terrorism.

Radicalisation :- cyber terrorism :

1. Internal fault line → rumors on internet and social media
eg: Anti-North East sentiment in Bangalore

↑ VICIOUS CYCLE

exodus of people

↑ potential conflict ~~violence~~ in real world

violence ← radicalisation

Hence, must be averted.

Don't write anything this margin (give area for rings at Revell)

Societal dissention - cyber terrorism:

WhatsApp rumors of child kidnappers → cyber spread via internet → societal dissension → isolated group of people → travellers attacked on their route → VIOLENCE

Hence must be curbed

Transnational terrorism - radicalisation:

- Fronts of terrorist organisations such as ISIS
- Radicalization using technology via deep web
- Radicalisation using frontal organisations in the guise of protesting injustice (Eg: in Kashmir).
- Often these organisations are funded by various of agencies in Pakistan.
- Hence radicalisation as a result of transnational terrorism is huge threat

Must be combated

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में लिखें)

Transnational terrorism - societal dissension

1. difference of opinion in society
↓
insecurity, identity crisis
↓
used for advantage by transnational organisations
↓
terrorism.

Eg:- LB report highlighted link of certain NGOs with organised crime / terrorist groups

Hence India needs to arrest radicalisation and societal dissension

Way forward:

1. counter terrorist financing, via cooperation with FATF.
2. effective national unity programs, such as the Bharat Shreshtha Bharat
3. effective IT and social media laws to prevent fake news and radicalisation

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. Given the emerging security challenges, discuss why the establishment of Integrated Theatre Commands is being seen as an important defence reform.
(250 words) 15

उभरती हुई सुरक्षा चुनौतियों को देखते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्यों एकीकृत थिएटर कमान की स्थापना को महत्वपूर्ण रक्षा सुधार के रूप में देखा जा रहा है।

India Moves to reorganize and restructure military organisation by creating 5 theatre commands :-

1. China specific Northern command
2. Pakistan " western "
3. Peninsular command - rest of the land
4. Air defence command
5. Maritime command.

Theatre commands are joint-service commands under a common commander, for a specified geographic / thematic territory,

Emerging security threat	Advantage of theater command as important reform
1. CHINA : → China is becoming increasingly assertive, not just in Ladakh, but also Doklam tri junction (2017), etc	→ Improved coordination of forces at border → Improved logistical ability of forces in region → Joint / well coordinated missions and defence. → More optimal use of existing firepower - Eg: Shared missiles (land and air, etc)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Multimodal nature of attack:
Eg: If there is air attack via sea, defence naval defence and air defence currently won't coordinate.

→ Current scenario: Army, Navy, Air force all defend air space on different frequencies
→ Changed nature of challenges requires cooperation.
→ Here theatre commands will bring coordination and synergy
→ They will also remove duplication of effort, and thus save resources.

3. More resources needed (to combat emerging threat)
a. Procurement:
Eg: 2019: Navy placed order of 57 air crafts; Air force planned 110.
communication between them led to reduced requirement

→ integrated approach towards procurement
→ saving valuable resources, and foreign exchange (if item is to be imported).
→ Long term planning to weapon infrastructure and purchase, instead of an emergency basis

4. Joint / cross - domain nature of emerging threats
Coordination between human resource and logistics needed

→ Across geography
→ Across personnel
→ Across management of both
→ Theatre command will help

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Thus, from above analysis of nature of emerging security threats and requirements to respond to that, it is seen that theatre commands will help in combating them all

In addition, they might also bring down defence expenditure, for example by joint procurement, logistics and human resource management (as seen). (currently 40% of MoD defence budget goes in salary and pension, and that is only set to increase)

Hence it is important step

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

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